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valleys are not markedly U-shaped in cross section, and that they have been shaped almost exclusively by water. To quote him: "Thus valley after valley in the Alps seems to leave no escape from the following dilemma: either a valley cut by a glacier does not differ in form from one made by running water, or one which has been excavated by the latter, if subsequently occupied, is but superficially modified by ice."

In the section on Alpine Meteorology we find the statement, "The Föhn is a wind from the south, hot, stifling, and dry, supposed to come from the deserts of North Africa," a view long since discarded. One lays down the book with the conviction that science has moved forward since the genial and lovable author began his Alpine studies, but that he is scarce conscious of the fact. The material changes which time has wrought in opening up the Alpine Highland during this period are delightfully told in the closing chapter, entitled: "Fifty Years of Change." In this direction chiefly and in its touches of local color the book must make its appeal to all who know and love the Alps. It is, moreover, beautifully printed and illustrated by excellent photographs from many sources.

WM. HERBERT HOBBS.

POLAR

The South Pole: An Account of the Norwegian Antarctic Expedition in the "Fram," 1910–12. By Roald Amundsen. Translated from the Norwegian by A. G. Chater. Vol. 1, xxxv and 392 pp. Vol. 2, x and 449 pp. Maps, ills., index. John Murray, London. Lee Keedick, 140 Nassau St., New York. 1913. $10. Postage extra. 9½ x 6½ each.

The English edition of this work is superbly produced. None of the geographical flavor has been sacrificed in the translation from the Norwegian by Mr. Chater. Amundsen's plans for equipment, his sledging methods, hygienic régime and all other phases of his work were so richly the result of his own experience and that of others and of the devices he originated for meeting the special problems before him that the detailed account of them in these volumes adds much to the value of his narrative. Meteorology, the complete meteorological record from Framheim, the astronomical observations at the Pole and oceanography have adequate treatment in the appendices. The chapter on oceanography was written by Professor Björn Helland-Hansen and Dr. Fridtjof Nansen. Amundsen's book in the German edition was so adequately reviewed in the *Bulletin* (Vol. 44, 1912, pp. 903–908) by Professor W. H. Hobbs that no extended further notice of it is here required.

GEOMORPHOLOGY

The Making of the Earth. By J. W. Gregory. Home Univ. Library. 256 pp. Index. Henry Holt & Co., New York, 1912. 50 cents. 7 x 4½.

The author is Professor of Geology in the University of Glasgow. He does not indicate whether he designs the book for general readers or for geologists and geographers. For the best profit in reading the work the former class would need some preliminary knowledge. The professional student will find a compact and useful summary of present views on some of the deeper problems of the origin and history of the earth.

One of the principal chapters deals with the nebular origin. The author appears to be in accord with the planetesimal theory as expounded by Professor Chamberlin, holding that the evidence as it stands is consistent with the hypothesis of a nebula consisting of a swarm of meteorites, ascribing the gaseous conditions postulated by Laplace to the more primitive stage of the nebula.

For the geographer the most suggestive chapter is, perhaps, that on the "Beneficent Influence of Segregation." By various processes of rock making and rock change the materials of the constituent meteorites were separated and brought together, like to like, forming the different kinds of common rocks and the great variety of useful materials produced in these rocks by secondary changes.

The volume is divided into four parts, each with a series of short chapters.